

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

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C O N F I D E N T I A L PRAGUE 2704

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR UN
SUBJECT: PRE-31ST UNGA CONSULTATIONS

REFS A) STATE 220772, B) STATE 220773

1. SUMMARY: IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS REFTTEL A, DCM ON SEPT 16 CALLED ON DEP FOREIGN MINISTER FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS VEJVODA, WHO WILL BE MEMBER OF CZECHOSLOVAK DELEGATION TO UNGA, TO PRESENT U.S. VIEWS ON MIDDLE EAST, KOREA, DISARMAMENT, SO AFRICA, HUMAN RIGHTS, AND ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES. VEJVODA, FROM HIS LONG EXPERIENCE IN UN AFFAIRS AND FROM VARIOUS DEMARCHES WE HAVE MADE IN LAST FEW MONTHS ON KOREA AND OTHER ISSUES, WAS ALREADY FAMILIAR WITH U.S. POSITION ON MOST OF THESE TOPICS. HE RAISED ISSUES OF U.S.-GOC DIFFERENCES RE UN MEMBERSHIP FOR ANGOLA AND VIETNAM AND GOC SUPPORT FOR NON-USE OF ENVIRONMENTAL WEAPONRY BUT NOTABLY AVOIDED ANY MENTION OF PUERTO RICO. END SUMMARY.

2. MIDDLE EAST: DCM OPENED DISCUSSION WITH BRIEF RUNDOWN OF ISSUES WHICH U.S. ESTIMATES LIKELY TO ARISE AT GA. VEJVODA AGREED IN GENERAL WITH U.S. ESTIMATION, BUT EXPRESSED SURPRISE THAT WE CONSIDERED ME AS IMPORTANT AGENDA ITEM. HE SAID AT PRESENT GOC DOES NOT CONSIDER ME AS PRIORITY ITEM FOR GA AGENDA. GOC POSITION IS THAT IT IS FIRST NECESSARY TO SEE WHAT
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ARABS WILL DO. HE NOTED, UNSURPRISINGLY, THAT GOC CONSIDERS

GENEVA THE PROPER VENUE FOR FURTHER ME NEGOTIATIONS.

3. KOREA: VEJVODA SAID GOC WAS BOUND TO SUPPORT ANY RESOLUTION SUPPORTED BY ITS (NORTH) KOREAN FRIENDS. HE MENTIONED THAT KOREANS HAD NOT DISCUSSED ISSUE WITH GOC VERY MUCH THIS YEAR--IN STRONG CONTRAST TO LAST YEAR, WHEN THERE WERE EXTENSIVE DISCUSSIONS. DCM EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE U.S. ATTACHES TO THIS ISSUE AND SPELLED OUT RATIONALE OF U.S. RESOLUTION IN DETAIL. DCM NOTED U.S. CONCERN OVER NORTH KOREAN VERBAL ATTACKS IN PRAGUE AGAINST UNITED STATES POLICIES BUT OBSERVED THAT CZECHOSLOVAK PRESS COVERAGE OF THE MURDER AT PANMUNJOM HAD SEEMED RELATIVELY RESTRAINED. VEJVODA APPEARED TO APPRECIATE FACT THAT EMBASSY HAD NOTED "SUBDUED" GOC HANDLING OF THIS INCIDENT.

4. DISARMAMENT: VEJVODA SAID GOC WOULD DOUBTLESS PLACE MORE EMPHASIS THAN USDEL ON DISARMAMENT MATTERS AT UNGA, BUT WOULD PREFER PROCEDURAL ARRANGEMENTS OF WDC--WHICH PROVIDE FOR AGREEMENT BY CONSENSUS RATHER THAN BY MAJORITY VOTE. VEJVODA DID NOT INDICATE THAT CZECHOSLOVAK DELEGATION IS UNDER INSTRUCTION TO VOTE AGAINST PROPOSED SPECIAL SESSION.

4. SOUTHERN AFRICA: VEJVODA EXPRESSED SYMPATHY WITH DESIRE TO KEEP DOWN EMOTIONAL LEVEL OF DEBATE ON AFRICAN ISSUES, BUT DOUBTED THIS WOULD BE POSSIBLE SINCE BLACK AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS WERE UNITED ON THE ISSUES AND WISHED TO PRESS THEIR VIEWS.

6. HUMAN RIGHTS: VEJVODA SAID FRG CHARGE HERE HAD MADE AN APPROACH ABOUT A POSSIBLE FRG INITIATIVE ON A SPECIAL COURT TO DEAL WITH ALLEGED HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS. VEJVODA UNDERSTANDS FRG HAS NOW DECIDED AGAINST MAKING INITIATIVE. GOC WOULD OPPOSE SUCH PROPOSAL BECAUSE OF SOVERIGNTY ISSUE INVOLVED, BUT WOULD SUPPORT PROPOSAL FOR SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON INFRACTIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS. WITH SOME EMOTION VEJVODA QUESTIONED INITIATIVES ON HUMAN RIGHTS BY GERMANY, IN VIEW OF 20 TH CENTURY HISTORY. IF FRG INITIATIVE WERE TO LEAD TO ANIMATED DEBATE IN UNGA, GOC MIGHT BE FORCED TO USE ARGUMENTS "IT WOULD NOT LIKE TO USE."

7. ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES: VEJVODA SAID GOC SHARED U.S. INTEREST IN KEEPING DOWN COSTS OF UN AND IMPROVING EFFICIENCY
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OF ITS BODIES. HE HOPED THIS WOULD BE AREA IN WHICH HIS DELEGATION COULD COOPERATE WITH USDEL. HE SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED DESIRE TO KEEP DOWN COSTS OF UN DISARMAMENT BODIES AND TOOK NOTE OF U.S. VIEWS ON JOINT INSPECTION UNIT.

8. OTHER ISSUES: VEJVODA BROUGHT UP TWO ISSUES WHICH NOT ADDRESSED IN REFTELS. A) MEMBERSHIP OF VIETNAM AND ANGOLA. HE SIMPLY NOTED THAT GOC AND USG POSITIONS DIFFER. B) TREATY

ON NON-USE OF ENVIRONMENTAL WEAPONS: VEJVODA CITED THIS AS IMPORTANT ISSUE FOR GOC, WHICH HOPES THAT 31ST UNGA WILL SEE TREATY LANGUAGE WORKED OUT BY U.S. AND USSR ADOPTED AND THAT IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO BLOCK EFFORTS BY SOME NON-ALIGNED DELS, PARTICULARLY MEXICANS, TO RETURN TO THE TOTAL BAN ORIGINALLY PROPOSED BY USSR.

9. COMMENT: DISCUSSION WAS CARRIED OUT IN AN EXTREMELY CORDIAL ATMOSPHERE, WITH VEJVODA RECALLING WITH PLEASURE HIS ACQUAINTANCE WITH AMBASSADOR SHERER, HIS PAST UN CONTACTS WITH JOHN BAKER, AND HIS TRAVELS IN THE U.S. ON ISSUES, VEJVODA APPEARED TO BE LOOKING FOR POSSIBLE AREAS OF COOPERATION WITH U.S. WHILE AVOIDING AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE DISCUSSION OF AREAS OF DISAGREEMENT. COOPERATION WILL, OF COURSE, COME ONLY IN THOSE AREAS IN WHICH USSR ALSO FINDS IT POSSIBLE TO COOPERATE WITH U.S.
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